

LISTENING COMPREHENSION

PART 1: CONVERSATIONS

SHORT CONVERSATIONS

Conversation 35

M: Hi, Mika. How was your summer vacation?

W: Very busy. I worked in the kitchen at my father's restaurant.

M: So did you wash dishes or cook?

W: Both, and I loved helping my dad make our traditional family soba noodles.

35. Which one of the statements is correct?

- a) The man loves to eat traditional Japanese food.
- b) The woman took her father to a restaurant.
- c) The man enjoyed the woman's Japanese noodles.
- d) The woman did some cooking in the summer.

Conversation 36

W: Aren't you supposed to be working on your report?

M: I am, but I want to have some coffee first.

W: You just went and got coffee 10 minutes ago. Sit and work!

M: But...I can't think of what to write. That's why I need more coffee!

W: (Sigh) Ok then. I hope you finish the report before class tomorrow.

36. Which one of the statements is correct about the man?

- a) He needs to finish a report by tomorrow.
- b) He is writing his report without taking a break.
- c) He asked the woman to make coffee.
- d) He does not want to go to work today.

Conversation 37

W: Where did I put my iPad? I can't find it! I've looked everywhere.

M: The best thing to do in these situations is not to panic. Think carefully. When was the last time that you used it?

W: Well, I was studying in the library until late yesterday, and.... Oh. I just remembered! I think I left it there on a desk near the window on the first floor.

M: There must be a lost and found section at the library. Why don't you go there and check?

W: Ok, I'll do it right now.

37. Which one of the statements is correct?

- a) The woman lost her iPad but found it under a desk.
- b) The man is studying at the library right now.
- c) The man wants to meet the woman at the library later.
- d) The woman was studying at the library last night.

Conversation 38

M: I heard you passed the entrance exam. Congratulations!

W: Thank you. I'm so happy because this university is the one I really wanted to go to.

M: You must be looking forward to your campus life then.

W: Yes, the first thing I'll do is to join the cheerleading team.

M: I'm not surprised, since you were the leader of the cheerleading team at your high school.

38. Which one of the statements is correct?

- a) The man and the woman will go to the same university.
- b) The woman has some concerns about her future campus life.
- c) The woman will continue what she was doing at high school.
- d) The man is giving advice about the woman's campus life.

Conversation 39

M: What do you usually have for lunch?

W: I prepare a boxed lunch and eat with friends at the cafeteria.

M: That's good! I either get something on my way to school or buy lunch at the cafeteria. But I want to save money for my next trip.

W: Why don't you bring something from home a few times a week? That will make a difference.

39. Which one of the statements is correct?

- a) The woman buys lunch at the cafeteria.
- b) The man needs money for a trip.
- c) The woman asks the man for advice.
- d) The man will keep his lunch habits.

Conversation 40

W: Hi James. Did you recently buy a new car?

M: Actually it's the same car I've been driving for a while. I just painted it red.

W: It looks fantastic. How did you decide on the new color?

M: I've always liked red. But when I originally bought it at the car dealership, only black was available.

40. Which one of the statements is correct?

- a) The woman thought the man's car was new.
- b) The woman has always liked the color red.
- c) The man bought a red car from the car dealership.
- d) The man painted his car the color black.

Conversation 41

M: Last Sunday, it was sunny with clear blue skies in the morning, but it suddenly started raining really hard when we were about to start our baseball game.

W: That's too bad. Was the game cancelled?

M: We waited until it stopped raining, then the game started right away.

W: You must have played on a muddy baseball field, then.

41. Which one of the statements is correct?

- a) The baseball game was cancelled because of the rain.
- b) The man played baseball after the rain stopped.
- c) The woman enjoyed the game on a muddy field.
- d) The weather forecast said that it would rain on Sunday.

Conversation 42

W: Do you know about audio books? You can listen to books read aloud.

M: Oh, yeah, I subscribe to an audio book service. I don't have much time to read, but with audio books, I can just listen to them while cooking or exercising.

W: What other advantages do they have?

M: They also provide readings in other languages, so I can use them to study English.

42. Which one of the statements is correct about the man?

- a) He listens to audio books while doing something else.
- b) He prefers reading books to listening to audio books.
- c) He thinks it is difficult to study a language with audio books.
- d) He is advised by the woman to subscribe to an audio book service.

Conversation 43

M: Hi Meg. Did you hear about the new study-abroad program in Spain?

W: No. Is it a one-year program?

M: It's a summer program in Barcelona. You can take Spanish lessons in the morning and visit various local places in the afternoon. It's only for two weeks, so the cost is not as expensive as other programs.

W: Oh, I wish I had known about it earlier! Then I would have worked longer hours during the spring break to save money for the program.

43. Which one of the statements is correct?

- a) The man studied in Spain for two weeks.
- b) The man wants to go to Spain with the woman.
- c) The woman did not know about the summer program.
- d) The woman worked hard to join a summer program.

Conversation 44

W: Do you know why Jane was absent from the history class this morning?

M: No. It's her favorite class. Is she sick?

W: I asked Naomi and Kim if they knew anything, but neither of them had heard from her.

M: That's strange. Why don't we stop by her apartment this afternoon? Her place is close to the campus.

W: Yeah. Let's do that.

44. Which one of the statements is correct?

- a) Jane was absent from class because she was sick.
- b) Jane called one of her friends this morning.
- c) The woman talked with Naomi and Kim today.
- d) The man cannot meet the woman this afternoon.

Conversation 45

M: I like your sneakers. They look new.

W: Yeah. I got them yesterday for only 30 dollars.

M: That's a good deal. Where did you get them?

W: At the new shoe store that just opened last week. They're having a sale now.

M: Really? Then I should go, too.

45. Which one of the statements is correct?

- a) The woman's sneakers are new.
- b) A shoe store opened yesterday.
- c) The man thinks the woman's shoes are expensive.
- d) The man already knew that the new shoe store was having a sale.

Conversation 46

M: Wow, you are sweating a lot. What happened?

W: Oh, I just ran back home to grab my English homework. You know that Ms. Anderson doesn't accept late essays.

M: Wait, didn't you read the e-mail last night? She is sick, so we don't have a lesson today.

W: Ugh. So I ran in this hot weather for nothing?

46. Which one of the statements is correct?

- a) The woman handed in her homework late.
- b) The man had to run back to his home.
- c) The woman and the man's class was canceled.
- d) The man emailed his teacher last night.

Conversation 47

W: 3 burgers and 2 drinks. Your total will be \$12.50. How would you like to pay?

M: With cash please...oh no! Where's my wallet? I think I lost it!

W: Uh oh. Would you like me to cancel your order for you?

M: Uh, can you give me a few minutes to look for my wallet first?

W: Sure, I can hold it until you're ready. Don't worry.

47. Which one of the statements is correct?

- a) The man decided to change his order.
- b) The man decided to pay with a credit card.
- c) The woman will help the man look for his wallet.
- d) The woman will wait while the man looks for his wallet.

Conversation 48

W: How many times have you been to Tokyo Disneyland?

M: I guess I've been there 5 or 6 times. How about you?

W: If I include my first time, which was when I was still a baby and don't remember at all, I've been there 25 times.

M: Really? That's a lot. Why do you go there so much?

W: I really enjoy the atmosphere of the place. It always makes me feel happy.

48. Which one of the statements is correct?

- a) The man feels happy whenever he goes to Tokyo Disneyland.
- b) The man first went to Tokyo Disneyland when he was a baby.
- c) The woman has hardly ever been to Tokyo Disneyland.
- d) The woman always enjoys the experience of going to Tokyo Disneyland.

Conversation 49

W: Do you know where the Italian recipe book is?

M: The Italian recipe book?

W: Yeah, the one that I borrowed from Paul. It's a small book with a red cover.

M: Oh, I remember seeing it in the living room. It was on the table by the sofa.

49. Which one of the statements is correct?

- a) Paul lent a recipe book to the woman.
- b) Paul will visit the man and the woman for dinner.
- c) The man is looking for a book in the living room.
- d) The man will help the woman cook Italian food.

Conversation 50

M: When is the best season to visit Canada?

W: It depends on what you want to do there. If you like skiing, you should go in the winter.

M: I don't like cold weather.

W: Then what about October? You'll see the beautiful colors of the maple leaves.

M: That sounds good.

50. Which one of the statements is correct?

- a) The man is interested in going skiing in Canada.
- b) The woman is advising the man about his trip.
- c) The man knows that October is a good season to visit Canada.
- d) The woman will see the colored maple leaves with the man.

LONG CONVERSATIONS

Long Conversation 1

W: Are you still hungry? Do you want any dessert?

M: Did you bring any pudding?

W: Yes. Do you want pudding or yogurt?

M: Pudding, please. I hope you brought spoons.

W: I brought plastic ones. Look in the bag.

M: Here they are. Thanks.

W: I love eating yogurt after hiking.

M: Well, you picked a great spot for lunch. The view of the ocean from this mountain top is amazing.

51. Where are the speakers?

- a) In a restaurant
- b) At the beach
- c) On a mountain
- d) In a boat

52. What did the woman do?

- a) She took photos of the mountains.
- b) She chose a good place to eat.
- c) She went swimming in the ocean.
- d) She forgot to bring paper cups.

Long Conversation 2

M: You got so much better at tennis! I'm impressed.

W: Thank you! Do you really think so?

M: I sure do. But no matter how much I practice, I can't seem to hit the ball fast enough!

W: I know what you mean. Actually, it was my aunt who showed me how to improve the way that I play.

M: How did she do that?

W: She gave me some really helpful tips. She taught me how to get into a good position when I hit the ball. Also, she showed me how to hold the racket tightly.

M: That sounds easy, but I am sure that it takes a lot of practice. I have only been playing tennis for a year.

W: Really? This is my fifth year playing tennis.

53. Which one of the statements is correct about the woman?

- a) She is not experienced at playing tennis.
- b) She taught her aunt how to play tennis.
- c) She started playing tennis a year ago.
- d) She has improved her tennis skills.

54. Which one of the statements is correct about the man?

- a) He doesn't know how to play tennis.
- b) He taught the woman how to hit the tennis ball.
- c) He has been playing tennis for about a year.
- d) He wants his aunt to practice tennis more often.

Long Conversation 3

M: Oh, no.

W: What's wrong?

M: I forgot to bring my homework assignment.

W: For which class?

M: History. I was up all night writing the paper.

W: Did you print it out?

M: Yes, and I thought I put it in my backpack.

W: You should check again. It's easy to make mistakes when you're tired.

M: You're right! It's here! How did you know?

W: The same thing has happened to me.

55. What are the speakers talking about?

- a) A weekend backpacking trip
- b) A late homework assignment
- c) How to stop making mistakes
- d) A missing history class paper

56. Which one of the statements is correct?

- a) The man did not sleep because he had schoolwork to do.
- b) The woman checked the items in the man's backpack for him.
- c) The woman will turn in the man's late homework for him.
- d) The man and the woman figured out how to use the printer.

Long Conversation 4

M: Guess what!

W: What is it?

M: According to a survey on cities around world, Tokyo has been rated the most popular city for restaurants. The restaurants in Tokyo are ranked higher than the ones in London, New York, and Paris.

W: Really? I'm not so surprised about that. Japanese food is known to be healthy, and nutritionally balanced. So, it's not such a surprise.

M: Yes. And one reason why Tokyo is the most popular is because of its variety of food. Another reason why is because of the service.

W: I agree. The staff at my favorite restaurants in Tokyo are always so polite.

M: That's true. What kind of restaurants do you usually go to?

W: Traditional Japanese restaurants, of course.

57. What did the woman say about restaurants?

- a) She used to eat at restaurants in New York often.
- b) She likes going to restaurants in Tokyo.
- c) London restaurants have good service.
- d) Paris has restaurants with nutritious food.

58. Which one of the statements is correct?

- a) The woman is inviting the man to her favorite restaurant.
- b) The woman is impressed with the service at restaurants in Tokyo.
- c) The man traveled around the world to try various local food.
- d) The man likes traditional Japanese food the best.

PART 2: MONOLOGUES

Monologue 1

A few decades ago, it would have been hard to imagine that cars could fly in the air. It was common to see flying cars in science fiction films. Nowadays, however, in Japan, Europe, and the United States, companies are working hard to develop flying cars. Currently, the Japanese government has a goal to introduce these types of cars to the general public at the 2025 Osaka World Expo. This could really start to change people's ideas about transportation for the future.

Many flying cars will use electric power, and will be able to be operated automatically. Since they are designed to take off and land vertically, they will not need to use an airport. The well-known Japanese car company, Toyota, began giving financial and technical support to new companies that are developing flying car technology. Although there are many technical problems that need to be resolved, this way of traveling could become a huge business opportunity.

59. What is this monologue mainly about?

- a) Cars that fly in the air
- b) Science fiction movies
- c) Toyota, the car company
- d) What people think about flying

60. According to the monologue, which one of the statements is correct?

- a) Flying cars were first designed 20 years ago.
- b) Many cars that fly will be operated using electricity.
- c) Toyota is being financially supported by new car companies.
- d) Toyota is designing flying cars for science fiction films.

(Source) "Will it be possible to ride flying cars in Japan by 2025? Safety, eliminating anxiety key"
The Mainichi. July 28, 2021
<https://mainichi.jp/english/articles/20210727/p2a/00m/0na/028000c>
※URL は問題作成時のものです。

Monologue 2

Kiwis are known as a fruit, but did you know that they are also a kind of bird? Kiwis are unique and curious birds living in New Zealand. They have loose, fur-like feathers, strong legs and no tail. They are the national symbol of New Zealand. As they have very small wings, they can't fly, so they can be easily attacked by other animals. Kiwis are becoming extinct. Nowadays there are only about 68,000 kiwis left. It is said that 1,400 of them die every year.

Kiwis are active at night. They look for insects, worms, fallen fruit, and plants to eat. Their small eyes do not see as well at night. Instead, they feel, smell, and hear their way around. Female kiwis grow to be larger than males. In proportion to their body size, the female kiwis lay bigger eggs than almost any other bird.

61. According to the monologue, how many kiwis die every year?

- a) 68,000
- b) 6,800
- c) 4,000
- d) 1,400

62. According to the monologue, which one of the statements is NOT correct about kiwis?

- a) Their feathers look like fur and they have no tail.
- b) As they have small wings, they can't fly.
- c) They hunt for food at night because they can see well.
- d) Female kiwis grow to be larger than males and lay big eggs.

(Source) "Kiwi species" SAVE the KIWI.
<https://www.savethekiwi.nz/about-kiwi/kiwi-species/>
※URL は問題作成時のものです。

Monologue 3

In the southern part of Ireland, there is a place called “Lafcadio Hearn Gardens.” These gardens are a living biography of Lafcadio Hearn, who changed his name to Koizumi Yakumo and introduced Japanese folklore and culture to the world.

The Greek Garden reminds visitors that Lafcadio was born in Greece. His mother was Greek and his father was Irish. The Irish Garden tells the story of his childhood. At the age of two, he was taken to his father’s home country, Ireland, where he grew up. The American Garden tells the story of his life in the United States where he lived for twenty years. At the age of 19, he moved to Cincinnati, a city in the American Midwest, where he started working as a journalist. The Japanese Garden is the highlight of these gardens. At the age of 40, he visited Japan, where he was fascinated by the stories and legends of Japan, and decided to stay. He married a Japanese woman and became a Japanese citizen.

63. What is Lafcadio Hearn’s connection to Ireland?

- a) He was born there.
- b) He grew up there.
- c) He worked there.
- d) He wrote about Japan there.

64. According to the monologue, which one of the statements is correct about Lafcadio Hearn?

- a) He suggested the creation of a place that was named after him.
- b) He spent most of his childhood in Greece.
- c) He became a journalist in the United States.
- d) He had a Japanese wife and lived in Japan for 40 years.

(Source) LAFCADIO HEARN JAPANESE GARDENS website
<https://www.lafcadiohearngardens.com/the-gardens/>
※URL は問題作成時のものです。